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# REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:  
Commissioner for Patents  
Box RCE  
Washington, DC 20231

|                        |                   |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number     | 09/476,156        |
| Filing Date            | December 30, 1999 |
| First Named Inventor   | P. Bonutti        |
| Art Unit               | 2177              |
| Examiner Name          | S. Channavajjala  |
| Attorney Docket Number | 780-A02-034       |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

## 1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a.  Previously submitted
  - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on February 28, 2003  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
  - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Enclosed
  - i.  Amendment/Reply
  - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
  - iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
  - iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. Miscellaneous

- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for \_\_\_\_\_ period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b.  Other Revocation and New Power of Attorney (w/copy of Declaration)

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## 3. Fees

Technology Center 2100

- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to  
Deposit Account No. 500601
  - i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 04/02/2003 JBALINAN 00000085 09476156
  - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 375.00 CH
  - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
- b.  Check in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed
- c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

|                   |                |                                   |                |
|-------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Paul D. Bianco | Registration No. (Attorney/Agent) | 43,500         |
| Signature         |                | Date                              | March 31, 2003 |

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as express mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Name (Print/Type) | Dinah Fuentes |
| Signature         |               |

Date March 31, 2003

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND FEES AND COMPLETED FORMS TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS: Assistant Commissioner for Patents,

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